Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): In a data processing network having a server, multiple partitions, a fabric, and a channel adapter for communicating messages between the partitions and the fabric, a method of assigning addresses to the channel adapter comprising:

sending multiple requests from the channel adapter to the fabric for address identifications each to be assigned to a respective partition, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said partitions;

assigning a unique address identification by the fabric in response to each request, each address identification being associated with the respective partition on whose behalf the request was sent for effecting communication with the respective partition's assigned address;

storing in a table in the fabric, the address identifications; and

returning the assigned address identification for each request, such that when a message is sent from the fabric to a partition via said channel adapter the sender of the message sees multiple channels adapters corresponding to said multiple partitions and wherein multiple addresses are assigned to the same channel adapter as assigned for said multiple partitions.

2. (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising establishing the table in the fabric responsive to the first request.

3. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the table is stored in a name server in the fabric.

4. (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

sending a proposed address to the fabric with a request, and

confirming by the fabric that the proposed address is assigned.

5. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

sending an updated address to the fabric with a request, and

updating by the fabric, the stored address associated with the partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said updated address.

6. (Currently Amended): A data processing system comprising:

a server;

multiple partitions in said server:

a fabric;

a channel adapter for communicating messages between the partitions and the fabric, said channel adapter sending multiple requests to the fabric for addresses each to

be assigned to a respective partition, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said partitions;

said fabric assigning a unique address identification in response to each request, each address identification being associated with the respective partition on whose behalf the request was sent for effecting communication with the respective partition's assigned address;

a table in said fabric storing the address identifications; and

a transmitter in said fabric returning the assigned address identification for each request, such that when a message is sent from the fabric to a partition via said channel adapter, the sender of the message sees multiple channel adapters corresponding to said multiple partitions and wherein multiple addresses are assigned to the same channel adapter as assigned for said multiple partitions.

7. (Original): The data processing system of claim 6 wherein said fabric establishes the table in the fabric responsive to the first request.

8. (Original): The data processing system of claim 6 wherein the table is stored in a name server in the fabric.

9. (previously presented): The data processing system of claim 6 wherein said server sends a proposed address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric confirms that the proposed address name is assigned.

10. (Original): The data processing system of claim 6 wherein said server sends an updated address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric updates the address associated with the

partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said updated address.

11. (Currently Amended): In data processing system having a server, multiple partitions in the server, a fabric, and a channel adapter for communicating messages sent by a sender between the partitions and the fabric, said channel adapter sending multiple requests to the fabric for addresses each to be assigned to a respective partition, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said partitions, an apparatus for assigning multiple addresses to the channel adapter comprising:

a process in said fabric assigning a unique address identification in response to each request, each address identification being associated with the respective partition on whose behalf the request was sent for effecting communication with the respective partition's assigned address;

a table in said fabric storing the address identifications; and

a transmitter in said fabric returning the assigned address identification for each request, such that when a message is sent from the fabric to a partition via said channel adapter, the sender of the message sees multiple channels adapters corresponding to said multiple partitions and wherein multiple addresses are assigned to the same channel adapter as assigned for said multiple partitions.

12. (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said fabric establishes the table in the fabric responsive to the first request.

13. (Original): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the table is stored in a name server in the fabric.

14. (Currently Amended): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein ~~when~~ said server sends a proposed address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric confirms that the proposed address is assigned.

15. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein ~~when~~ said server sends an updated address to the fabric with a request, and said fabric updates the address associated with the partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said updated address.

16. (Currently Amended): A program product usable with a data processing network having a server, multiple partitions, a fabric, and a channel adapter for communicating messages from a sender between the partitions and the fabric, said program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having recorded thereon computer readable program code means for performing the method of assigning addresses to the channel adapter comprising:

receiving multiple requests from the channel adapter to the fabric for addresses each to be assigned to a respective partition, each request sent on behalf of a respective one of said partitions;

assigning a unique address identification by the fabric in response to each request, each address identification being associated with the respective partition on whose behalf the request was sent for effecting communication with the respective partition's assigned address;

storing in a table in the fabric, the address identifications; and

returning the assigned address identification for each request, such that when a message is sent from the fabric to a

partition via said channel adapter, the sender of the message sees multiple channels adapters corresponding to said multiple partitions and wherein multiple addresses are assigned to the same channel adapter as assigned for said multiple partitions.

17. (Original): The program product of claim 16 wherein said method further comprises establishing the table in the fabric responsive to the first request.

18. (Original): The program product of claim 16 wherein the table is stored in a name server in the fabric.

19. (previously presented): The program product of claim 16 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving a proposed address to the fabric with a request, and

confirming by the fabric that the proposed address is assigned.

20. (Original): The program product of claim 16 wherein said method further comprises:

receiving an updated address to the fabric with a request, and

updating by the fabric, the stored address associated with the partition on whose behalf the request was sent with said updated address.